

Congressman Hastings commemorated the life of Mrs. Katherine C. Kelly by making the following statement on the House floor on January 7, 2011:

M. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a great American, Katherine C. Kelly, a lifelong champion of human rights and universal health care, who died on the morning of January 6, 2011 at the age of 86.

Katherine was a good friend and supporter for more than 40 years. Over the course of her life, she and her late husband, Edward M. Kelly, were prominently active in the Civil Rights movement, the fight for women's rights, gay rights, and every progressive movement in the United States. Katherine dedicated her life to the Democratic Party, serving as State Committeewoman from Palm Beach County for 26 years.

Additionally, she was named to the Electoral College and served as a delegate to five Democratic National Conventions.

She also served as the Legislative Director for Florida NOW, as Vice President of the Florida Women's Political Caucus, as a Board member for NARAL, and as Development Director of Women Leaders Online. Her continued dedication to political and progressive causes led to recognition as the Outstanding Feminist 2001 by Florida NOW and Woman of the Year in 2008 by the Democratic Women's Club Palm Beach County.

M. Speaker, Katherine was deeply loved and widely respected by everyone who knew her. Today, our nation has lost someone who represented all that is good in the world.

- [ARCHIVED HEROES](#)